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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Iran/Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 7 February 1949

SUBJECT Air Agreement Negotiations between  
Iran and Czechoslovakia

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1. About the middle of December 1948 the Czech Legation in Tehran received instructions to press the Iranian and Iraqi Governments for a civil air agreement, as originally proposed to those governments in September 1947.
2. Before taking action, the Czech Legation advised Prague that an air treaty with Iraq would be difficult, if not impossible, to obtain. Prague replied that attempts to conclude a treaty with Iraq should be abandoned, but that the Iranian Government should be approached.
2. The Czech Legation, therefore, sent a note to the Iranian Foreign Office in December, requesting an air agreement based on the Czech proposal submitted in September 1947. ~~Comment.~~ This corrects information contained in Paragraph 2 of ~~which~~ which stated that, as of 11 January 1949, Ivo Spoutil, First Secretary of the Czech Legation in Tehran, had not approached the Iranian Foreign office regarding an air agreement.)
4. Having received no reply to the above-mentioned note, Spoutil called on Darra, chief of the Treaty Department of the Iranian Foreign Office, on 18 January 1949. Darra gave Spoutil Iran's counter-proposal for an air agreement, which was printed in English, and also suggested an alternative arrangement, which Darra thought would be approved by the Iranian Government and, according to which, the Czech Air Line would be given non-reciprocal, four-month provisional permission for scheduled flights, if prior clearance were requested for each flight, and if all identifying plane data were given before each flight. ~~Comment.~~ This is the same type of permission which was granted in September 1947 for four months, but at that time the Czechs did not take advantage of it.) Darra added that he could not promise that such an agreement could be renewed after its expiration.

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5. Spoutil has forwarded to Prague both the counter-proposal of the Iranian Foreign Office and Darra's alternative suggestion.
6. According to informant, Spoutil believes that either the British or the Americans dictated the terms of the Iranian counter-proposal, since it was printed in English, rather than French, which is customary. Informant stated further that Spoutil believes that, since his meeting with Darra on 18 January, the Iranian Government has adopted a friendlier attitude toward Czechoslovakia and possibly toward other satellite countries.

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